



United Benefice News

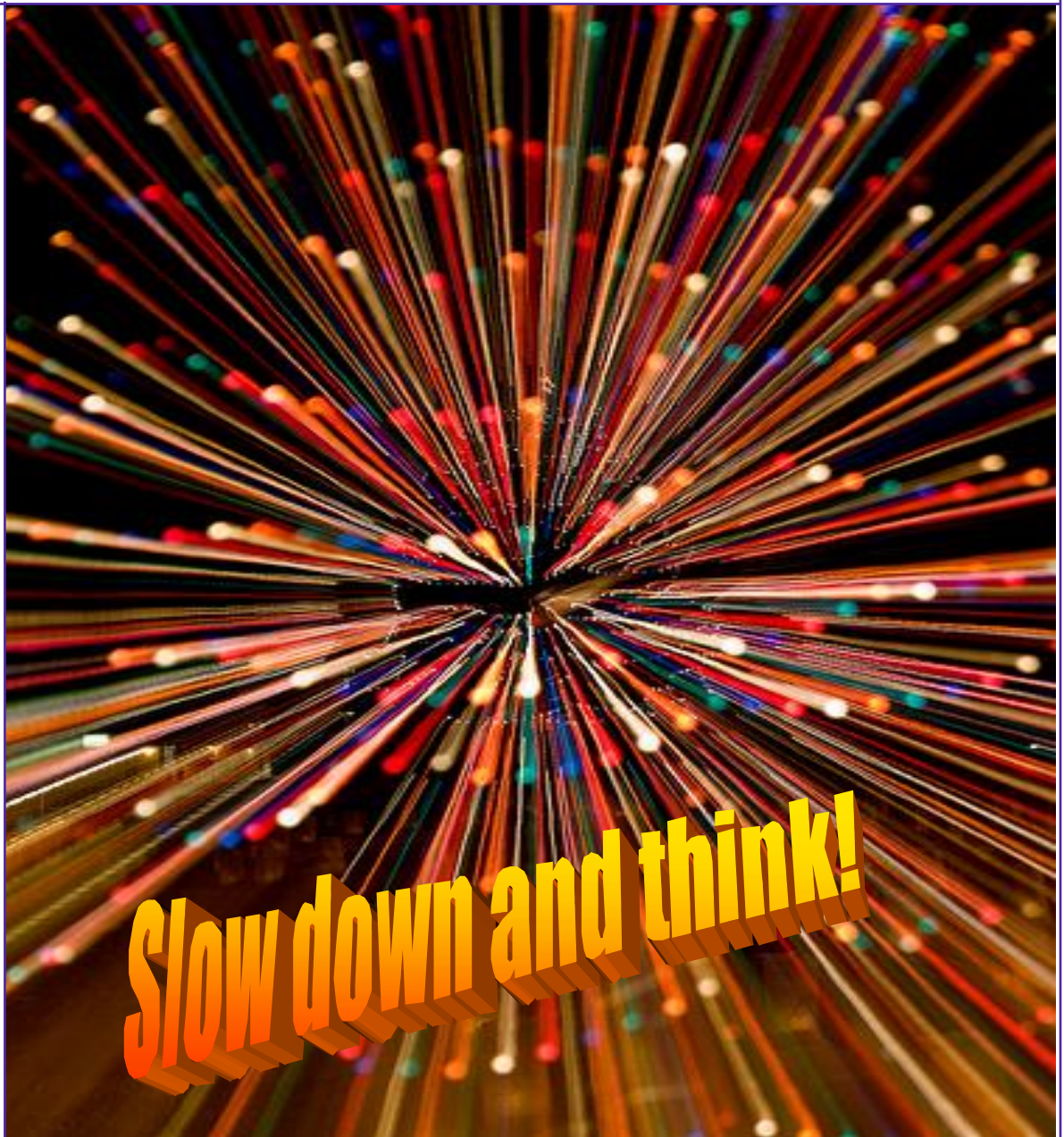
for the churches of St George's and St John's



25th December 2010 - Christmas

Come, you who have much faith and you who have little, and you who have not been for a long time, you who have been here often, you who have tried to follow and you who feel you have failed. Come, not because I invite you, but because God does; and, as you are welcomed, go, and welcome others.

We welcome you to our worship today. We hope God's Holy Spirit will touch your heart and that you may be strengthened by Word and Sacrament.



Slow down and think!

On this day the children come to Church at Christmas to look into the crib and hear again the wonder of the story of the shepherds and the baby in the manger. As adults, it could be just a time to slow down and have a rest. The great thing about slowing down and having a little rest is that it's also a time that we can recharge our batteries and have a little think about the new year. Christmas is a time to sit down and decide how we are going to make room for God in our lives. For children, the excitement of Christmas comes once a year. As adults, we learn to live the true meaning of Christmas not on this one day, but every day.

Sunday 26th (Boxing Day)

In our liturgy on this Sunday there is an extraordinary change in the tone. It seems that having been on the mountain in celebrating Christ's birth we are immediately thrust down with the bloody death of St Stephen, the first known Christian Martyr. It really sets the tone for our thinking concerning our Christian journey. The Sunday service this year will only be at St Georges at 8am and 10am.



Epiphany

Because the Feast of Epiphany falls mid week we shall observe this on Sunday 2nd January in both churches. For many Christians this feast ranks amongst the highest. The old Prayer Book title "The manifestation of Christ to the whole world" really sums it up. This year on the Thursday 6th, the actual feast day we shall do something special. At 4.30pm we are going to hold a Christingle Service. This is an inspiring, candlelit celebration which brings together people of all ages from the community. During the celebration everyone receives a Christingle which is made of an orange, a lighted candle, a red ribbon and sweets on cocktail sticks, each part acting as a symbol of the Christian faith. Please do join us and if you can help with the preparation of the Christingles' please let Margaret know.



Post Christmas Break.

Both myself & Fr Robert will be away from the 27th to the 31st. The parish office will be closed at this time. If any urgent matters need attention please contact the Vicarage on 020 7727 9486 and the matter will be attended to. May I take this opportunity of thanking all those who sent cards at this time. Many of you will know that it is my tradition to make a contribution to the Bishop Simeon Trust in lieu of Christmas cards. On behalf of myself, Fr Robert, Fr Ivo, Margaret & Piotr may we all wish you a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Well done Fund raisers!!!

I am delighted to report to significant fund raising results. Gill & Clive Rowe's Poetry reading evening raised a superb £2,206.10 for the continuing relief work by Christian Aid in Pakistan. Well done to all who worked hard at this event. Also on Sunday the 12th our children's pageant, orchestrated and master minded by Margaret raised an amazing £800 towards the work of the Broadway Homeless Trust. Again thanks to all who worked hard on this!



Nativity

John Donne (1572-1631)

Immensity cloistered in thy dear womb,
 Now leaves His well-belov'd imprisonment,
 There He hath made Himself to His intent
 Weak enough, now into the world to come;
 But O, for thee, for Him, hath the inn no room?
 Yet lay Him in this stall, and from the Orient,
 Stars and wise men will travel to prevent
 The effect of Herod's jealous general doom.
 Seest thou, my soul, with thy faith's eyes, how He
 Which fills all place, yet none holds Him, doth lie?
 Was not His pity towards thee wondrous high,
 That would have need to be pitied by thee?
 Kiss Him, and with Him into Egypt go,
 With His kind mother, who partakes thy woe.

Christmas decoration

My grateful thanks to the Jansen, Chorley and Rogge families for their gifts towards the decoration of St Georges at this time.



This week readings:

1st: Is 63, 7-9

2nd: Hbr 2, 10-18

Gospel: Mt 2, 13-23

Next week readings:

1st: Is 60, 1-6

2nd: Eph 3, 1-12

Gospel: Mt 2, 1-12





Your Vicar: Fr Michael Fuller 020 7727 9486, fax: 020 7681 2766

Email: fmichael@stgeorgescampdenhill.com

Associate Priest: Fr Robert Thompson 07792 564869

Email: frrobert@stgeorgescampdenhill.co.uk



Youth Worker: Margaret Houston 020 7221 6546 margaret@stgeorgescampdenhill.com

Parish Administrator: Piotr Blak 020 7221 6546 stgeorgew8@btconnect.com

St John the Baptist Church, Holland Road, Kensington, London W14 8AH

www.stjohnthebaptisthollandroad.com **Sunday Service: 18:30 Sung Mass**

Church Warden: Jenny Davenport 020 7912 7656 Organist: Paul Joslin

St George's Church, Aubrey Walk, Campden Hill, Kensington, London W8 7JG

www.stgeorgescampdenhill.com Church Wardens: Angela Lascelles 020 7229 5504

Christopher Buckmaster 020 7229 7508 Organist: Andrew Wells 07885 133817

Sunday Services: 8:00 Holy Communion (Prayer Book); 10:00 Sung Eucharist & Sunday School

Diary of the Week

(all the following events are at St Georges Church)

Sunday 26th

8am Holy Communion

10am Sung Eucharist

NO evening Mass at St Johns

Friday 31st (St Sylvester)

8am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

6.30pm holy Eucharist

Monday 27th

NO SERVICES

Saturday 1st (New years Day & The Naming of Jesus)

9.30am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist

6pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 28th (Holy Innocents)

6.30pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 29th (St Thomas Becket)

12noon Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd Epiphany Sunday

Services at normal times in both churches.

Thursday 30th

6pm Evening Prayer

6.30pm holy Eucharist